

There are many free or low cost resources out there to help you prepare your annual income taxes. Find more information on these services below.

[IRS VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE \(VITA\)](#)

The VITA Program offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income (generally, \$49,000 and below) people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Certified volunteers sponsored by various organizations receive training to help prepare basic tax returns in communities across the country. VITA sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls, and other convenient locations. Most locations also offer free electronic filing.

To find the VITA site nearest you, please click [here](#)

[TAX COUNSELING FOR THE ELDERLY](#)

The Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program provides free tax help to people aged 60 and older. Trained volunteers from non-profit organizations provide free tax counseling and basic income tax return preparation for senior citizens. Volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS.

As part of the IRS-sponsored TCE Program, **AARP** offers the Tax-Aide counseling program at more than 7,000 sites nationwide during the filing season. Trained and certified AARP Tax-Aide volunteer counselors help people of low-to-middle income with special attention to those age 60 and older.

For more information on TCE, call 1-800-829-1040. To locate the nearest AARP Tax-Aide site, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit [AARP's Internet site](#).

MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES GET FREE TAX HELP!

The military also has a strong Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. The Armed Forces Tax Council (AFTC) consists of the tax program coordinators for the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

Airmen, soldiers, sailors, marines, guardsmen, and their families worldwide receive free tax preparation assistance at offices within their installations. These VITA sites provide free tax advice, tax preparation, and assistance to military members and their families. They are trained and equipped to address military specific tax issues, such as [combat zone](#) tax benefits and the effect of [Earned Income Tax Credit \(EITC\)](#) guidelines.

FREE FILE

The Free File program provides free federal income tax preparation and electronic filing for eligible taxpayers through a partnership between the Internal Revenue Service and the Free File Alliance LLC, a group of private sector tax software companies. Many companies offer free or paid state tax preparation and e-filing services. Some companies may not offer state tax

preparation and e-file services for all states.

Traditional Free File -

- Free tax preparation and e-filing if your adjusted gross income is \$57,000 or less in 2009.
- Asks simple questions, puts your answers on the right forms.
- Does all the math for you.
- Checks for accuracy.
- Get quick access to the most commonly filed federal tax forms and schedules for [Traditional Free File](#)

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- Some software companies may offer state tax preparation; however, fees may apply.

Free File Fillable Forms -

- There are no income limitations.
- Looks like blank IRS forms. You choose, self-prepare, and e-file your 1040, 1040 A and 1040EZ return.
- Includes basic calculation capability.
- Get quick access to the most commonly filed federal tax forms and schedules for [Free File Fillable Forms](#)

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Does NOT support state forms or State e-file.